VISION IAS

www.visionias.in

VISION IA
R N 18 JUN 2019 NO. 03
RECEIVED

GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1242)

Name of Candidate	Karishma Nair		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	514134
Center	ORN	Date	18/06/19

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH**
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

1. Tribal art in India generally reflects the creative energy found in rural areas that acts as an undercurrent to the craftsmanship. Explain with reference to the Worli and Gond paintings. **(150 words) 10**

Tribal art in India is rich in its composition, diverse in its forms, simple in its conceptions.

Craftsmanship is the more formal aspect of rural art, whereas tribal art is done in specific rural areas by almost every member of the tribe as ~~part of~~ form recreation.

This is true in case of Worli Painting originating from Thane district, Maharashtra. It includes scenes of daily life showcased by stick figure humans who are seen dancing, playing, doing economic activity, in groups more often showing rural life

The paintings are made on dung paper using rice paste, thus making use of rurally available raw material.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

The Gond paintings by Gond tribes of Jharkhand- Chattisgarh - Odisha belt also showcases the diverse culture of these tribes.

Thus tribal art is a productive way to channelise creative energy which also brightens economic prospects.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2. Though it had its achievements, the exclusion of Indians from the system was a key feature of judicial reforms introduced by Cornwallis. Analyze.
(150 words) 10

Cornwallis brought about 4 tier judicial System in India in 1793 as part of his judical reforms.

This included an extra ~~co~~ provincial Court of appeal in
- Calcutta
- Dhaka
- Patna
- Murshidabad.

It had many achievements:

1. Long jail terms and harsh punishments reduced.
2. A layer of appeal improved judicial caution.
3. Indians could file cases against Europeans

Cornwallis however was extremely 'racial' and thus excluded Indians from the system wherein they could only be a judge in lower courts and not in higher courts.

Further, Indians could not try Europeans as well.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

The expensive court system excluded the Indian masses from justice.
Further, court cases were long drawn, thus many poor Indians did not find merit in fighting the cases.

→ Thus, the judicial reforms though ~~well~~ needed were not holistic as it was biased against Indians

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3. Outline the course of the revolutionary movement in the Indian freedom struggle during the 1920s and 1930s, paying special attention to the contributions of Bhagat Singh. **(150 words) 10**

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

4. The Marshall Plan was important in the recovery of the European states from the aftermath of the Second World War. However, it also became a crucial factor in the creation of two Europes i.e. East and West. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

Marshall Plan was the reconstruction and rehabilitation grants provided by USA to European states to recover from the consequences of second world war.

However, these grants were available only to those countries that chose a capitalistic model of development, as the USA wanted to spread capitalism ~~and~~ and contain communism

Thus, the Western part of Europe including France, Spain, Belgium, etc. were developing greatly due to assistance by Marshall Plan, whereas states like Poland, ~~Czec~~ Chzeck Republic, etc. were not provided this assistance and were seen under the influence of USSR.

Thus, Marshal Plan split Europe on the lines of the Cold War.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

This is especially visible in Germany where the Marshal Plan was applicable on Western Germany which became far more developed than East Germany.

~~Thus~~ Marshal Plan hence invariably resulted in the creation of two Europes which lasted right till the end of the cold war.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

5. Examine the causes behind the existence of bonded labour in contemporary India. Also, discuss the steps that should be taken for its redress. **(150 words) 10**

Bonded labour is modern-day slavery wherein labour is expected with any remuneration, respite or choice to leave the employment.

Recent instances in Karnataka has brough this reality into light.

Causes behind existence

1. High indebtedness → provide labour when unable to pay back.
2. Lack of awareness of rights and laws.
3. Highly informal labour conditions even outside ~~labour~~ bonded labour
   ↳ atleast has certainty of labour.
4. Difficult to differentiate bonded labour, thus ~~just~~ policing system fails.
5. Familial pressure of loyalty to masters and creation of god like image.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Steps that should be taken

- Proper awareness drive among citizens, especially domestic help.
- Efficient inspections.
- Strict licensing policy against bonded labour.
- Provide harsher punishments under IPC.
- Create portal like that for Child labour (PENCIL) for citizens to inform.
- Create better prospects for employment, and better and affordible credit facilities eg MUDRA)

→ Bonded labour is the worst form of modern-day attrocity which has to be nipped by holistic action

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

6. State the factors that enhance the risk for initiation or continuation of abuse of drugs by the youth. What measures can be taken to address this issue? **(150 words) 10**

Drug abuse is a stark reality affecting especially the youth across socio-economic spectrum.

Factors that enhance Risk ① for Initiation

- Peer pressure : "Coolness" factor
- Increased stress in school and college life.
- Reduction in stigma associated with abuse → casualisation.
- Availability at cheaper prices.

~~Ris~~ ② for continuation

- Continuous easy availability
- Poor guidance by peers, schools /counseling, parents, society.
- Inefficiency of policing
- Increasing stress in education and unemployment.
- Lack of proper infrastructure for affordable recreation for youth.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Measures to be taken

- Proper counselling and awareness.
  - Catch them before initiation.
- Reduce stigma of de-addiction centres, & increase availability and accessibility.
- Task force against illegal drug trafficking should be made effective to curb supply.
- Improve avenues for recreational activities of youth.
- Tackle larger issues of school stress, unemployment, etc.

India which is proud of being the "youngest" in terms of population should work effectively in stoping this intoxicated menace.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

7. Critically analyze the impact of globalization on culture in the context of India. **(150 words) 10**

Globalisation opened doors for culture which could be both for spreading out and being suffocated by new entrants.

Culture includes understanding and consensus of a group which has seen a paradigm shift as follows.

Positive Impact

1. Indian culture got an international platform ~~at~~ and market.
   eg. Celebration of International Yoga Day.
2. Multitude of culture making people take conscious effort to protect and preserve dying culture.
   eg. Know India scheme of Ministry of External Affairs
3. Incorporation of positives of other cultures into Indian culture. ~~eg food~~
4. More availability of raw material to safeguard culture.
5. More economic wherewithal to invest in cultural development.
6. Exposure of Indians to other diverse cultures and tradition.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

which increases tolerance.

Negative Impact

① Stiff competition, thus losing local markets to international goods.

② Competition with other forms of digital entertainment eg. Tradition ~~theater~~ puppetry like Thollu Bomalatta dying with video games.

③ Pure culture getting diluted due to convenience. eg. Comfort clothing → leads to uniformity

④ Language getting hybridised with English etc.

⑤ Poor awareness and attachment of new generation with Indian Culture.

→ Thus, Indian Culture needs to be hand held to face the threats of globalisation so as to reap benefits of globalisation.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

8. Giving a brief account of distribution of cotton textile industry in India, identify the factors responsible for localization of this industry in Ahmedabad–Mumbai–Pune region. **(150 words) 10**

Cotton textile industry is not highly localised as the raw-material is not heavy, neither is the final product (weight-neutral industry)
It is thus located throughout India both near raw material (Mumbai) and market (Agra)

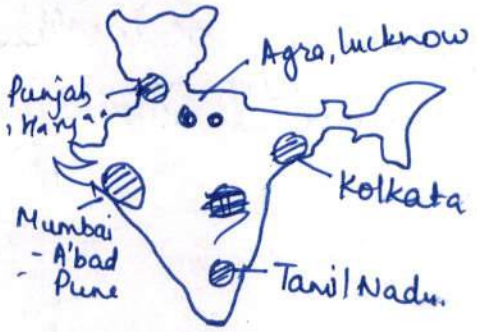


fig. Cotton-Textile Industry

factors responsible for localization of ~~the~~ cotton industry in Ahmedabad-Mumbai-Pune region:

(1) Availability of raw cotton
↳ Black soil belt of Maharashtra & Gujarat.

(2) Market Availability
↳ Cities' population - high potential.
↳ Film Industry.

(3) Accessibility to port
↳ Mumbai port for exports.

(4) Favourable Government policies in this region.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(5) Benefit of agglomeration - as this was a well established hub beginning from 1853, it was easier for it to further develop.

(6) Presence of labour ~~at a~~ at cheaper price as many jobless immigrants arrive at this region.

→ Thus, though cotton textile industry need not be localized, it is still so due to various advantages accrued in the mentioned region.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

9. How do increasing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions impact coastal and marine ecosystems? Highlight various measures that can be taken for protection and restoration of such vulnerable ecosystems. **(150 words) 10**

GreenHouse Gas Emissions (GHG) impact global climate by increasing temperatures, the impact of which falls heavily on coastal and marine ecosystems.

① Increase in ocean acidification.
↳ impacts marine flora and fauna
↳ Coral reefs need optimum pH conditions.

② Rise in sea level
↳ melting glaciers due to ↑ in temperature.
↳ Coastal ~~ea~~ land may submerge.
eg. Kiribaiti islands

③ Marine imbalances causes death of fish
↳ Economic impact on coastal fishing
↳ Increased migration of marine organisms.

④ Tourism impacted in coastal areas due to rising temperatures.

⑤ Changing salinity due to change in rainfall patterns, rising sea level, etc. may ~~cause~~ impact ocean circulation.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Measures for Protection & Restoration

- Reduce the GHG so as to reduce impact.
- Promote healthy tourism so as to limit effects.
- Use bioremediation methods to reverse ocean acidification
- Reduce pollution in such ecosystems eg. Suchitwa Mission of Kerala
- Promote healthy fishing practices respecting breeding patterns.

The SDG no. 14 : Life under Sea deals with marine ecosystems and its goals must be achieved through global action.

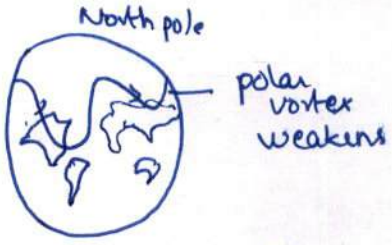
Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10. Explain the phenomenon of a Polar Vortex. Also, comment on the reasons as to why tropical areas as south as Florida have been witnessing sub-zero temperatures in recent years. **(150 words) 10**

→ Polar vortex is a low-pressure region of extreme cold winds formed over both the poles.

- It largely occurs due to temperature differences between temperate ~~and~~ polar region and the sub-tropics.
- When this temperature difference is high the vortex is stronger (summers) and does not expand to lower regions.
- During winters and due to intensification and changing global climate patterns, this vortex weakens, meanders and flows to lower lattitudes causing sub-zero temperatures in ~~this~~ regions as low as tropics (florida)

Normal case.



Recent scenario.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Such sub-zero temperatures have caused loss of life, economic activity, even in prosperous regions of the USA.

Such vortex deviancies should be viewed as an effect of global warming, thus, global effort should be concentrated towards fulfilling Paris Agreement targets

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

11. The most powerful trend of medieval Indian literature is devotional poetry which dominates almost all the major languages of the country. Elucidate.
(250 words) 15

Medieval Indian age was the peak of the Bhakti movement, thus it had an impact on the cultural events, architecture and literature of the time.

Bhakti movement also prepounded regional language promotion, thus literature in regional languages flourished.

Since Bhakti was pure devotion, it is no surprise that devotional poetry was the most powerful trend of medieval Indian literature. This is visible in many major languages.

① Tamil

- The Nayanars and Alvars promoted devotional poetry.
  eg. Nalayira Divyaprabandham.

② Kannada

- The Basavva followers Virashaivas wrote 'Vachanas' at this time which was devotional.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

③ Hindi

Ramdas (Kabir, Sundas) and his disciples wrote devotional poetry and sangit in the Northern plains.

eg. Ramcharitmanas by Tulsidas.

④ Bengali

Chaitanya Mahaprabhu promoted 'Sankirtanas' which were devotional in Bengal region

⑤ Braj Bhasha

Mirabai wrote devotional poetry to Lord Krishna during this age.

⑥ Urdu

The Sufi saints wrote devotional songs and poetry to be sung including 'qawali' at this time.

→ Thus, the medieval period's richness in devotional poetry is still revisited in modern times by singing the same.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

12. Discuss the major changes introduced by the Government of India Act, 1919 and its significance as a historical landmark in the Indian freedom struggle. **(250 words) 15**

(Montague Chelmsford Reforms)

Government of India Act, 1919 was a watershed movement in Indian freedom struggle for the changes it brought about and the responses it garnered.

Major Changes Introduced

1. Concept of direct elections were introduced.
2. Separation of central and provincial governments with clear demarcations in the form of lists was introduced.
3. Bi-cameralism was introduced at the centre.
4. Dyarchy introduced in the provinces with: Governor had emergency powers.
   reserved list: Governor + Executive Council
   transferred list: popular ministers + Governor.
5. Popular ministers were made responsible to the legislature at the centre.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

6. Women were given right to vote
7. ~~Communal~~ Separate Electorates expanded to Sikhs, Europeans, Anglo Indians, etc.

Significance as a historical landmark

- It was rejected by majority of the leaders – Hindus and Muslims alike, thus united resistance.
- It was one of the reasons for Non-cooperat-ion movement as people were disapp-ointed that no mention of 'dominion status' was present that they thought they deserved after participation in 1st World war.
- It evoked strong condemnation even from 'moderate' leaders. eg. Annie Besant termed it as 'unworthy of Britishers to offer and Indians to accept'.
- The Central Government's lack of accountability disgruntled the Indians.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

• It strengthened the national movement and Gandhi's popularity and agitation against the Government.

⇒ The GoI Act, 1919 which had an aspect for checking its functioning by a Commission after 10 years was the cause for sending the infamous Simon Commission which gave an impetus to Civil Disobedience Movement and the GoI Act, 1935 as well.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

13. Multiple factors allowed the British to gain control over India. In this context, highlighting the main developments, trace the course of British conquest of India from 1757 to 1856. **(250 words) 15**

British control over India ~~was~~ is a story of battles, diplomacy, treatises, and annexations.

British conquest : 1757 to 1856

with the Battle of Plassey (1757) Britain (EIC) got hold of rich resources of Bengal which it could use to win supremacy over french in Carnatic war (in 1763)

1764 : Battle of Buxar and Treaty of Allahabad (1765)

Britain (EIC) got Diwani Rights and soon Nizamat rights thus began the era of Dual Government in Bengal.

1773 : End of Dual Government & Governor-General reign.

- ~~Economic~~ Board of Control established to look after military and revenue aspects.

1789-99 – Era of ~~Cornwallis~~ Wellesley's Subsidiary alliance incorporates many princely states

1799 : Fall of Mysore a formidable enemy

1803 : British control over Delhi established.

1814-19 : Battles with Nepal and Maratha completely under British control.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

with course of time and developments in Britain and Europe, the EIC's ~~ee~~ monopoly of trade was reduced beginning with 1813 and finally abolished in 1833.

A gradual take over of ~~Briti~~ EIC's rule by British Government could be visualised.

1820's : Battles with Burma and its consequent annexation to India, thus further expanding British Empire.

1840's : Dalhousie's famous 'Doctrine of lapse' that further brought many princely states into British rule as adopted successors were no longer recognised.

1850's : furthering of British Policy and in 1853 ~~p~~ well-established act for 'parliamentary style governance of India was undertaken.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Thus, in a nutshell the following reasons helped in British Conquest between 1757 - 1857:

(1) Acquiring revenue collection rights.

(2) Winning battles against competitors : French, Mysore, Marathas etc.

(3) Subsidiary Alliance that transferred 'British Empire in India' to 'British Empire of India' eg. Mysore, Marathas, Awadh etc.

(4) Expanding territories — Myanmar, Nepal, etc.

(5) finally, doctrine of lapse on many states : Satara, Awadh, Jhansi, etc.

(6) Comprehensive laws for governing eg. Acts of 1773, 1813, 1813, 1853 etc.

British Conquest till 1857 laid down the foundation for the empire for a century to come.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

14. Give a brief account of the circumstances under which Indo-Sri Lanka Peace Accord was signed in 1987. Mentioning its important provisions, provide a critical assessment of this accord. **(250 words) 15**

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

15. With India becoming increasingly urban and the urban poor increasing in number, it is imperative that the challenges they face be addressed urgently. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

Census 2011 estimates urban population to be 31% which is expected to rise to 50% by 2030.
This rise in urban population comes with challenges of urban poverty with India already being home to Asia's largest slum - Dharavi

The challenges urban poor face are multi-dimensional:

1. Social
   - poor living conditions → Ghettoization → secluded from prosperity of urban areas
   - Social discrimination as urban poor are associated as a separate class, caste, religion, etc.
   - Poor access to health and education.
2. Economic
   - Unable to afford amenities as cost of living is high.
   - Stuck in vicious cycle of poverty, poor education, poor skills, poor employment.
3. Political
   - Lack of political ~~pro~~ representation.
   - Policy for urbanisation usually excludes this class. eg. Razing down of slums

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

4. Amenities provided are poor
   - Transport is costly → can't be used. eg. Delhi Metro.
   - Water availability is scarce and not continuous.
   - Sewage problems → causes diseases.

Why imperative to address challenges urgently?

① Population burden continuously increasing, thus matters can get out of hand.

② Poor living conditions leading to health crisis.

③ Looming threats of climate change and disaster always impacts urban poor more. eg. Mumbai, Chennai floods.

④ Rise in crimes in cities as these challenges amplify.

⑤ Right opportunity as schemes like Smart Cities are developing Tier-II & III cities, thus challenges can be tackled in the planning stage itself.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

The Ahluwalia Committee Report comprehensively covers challenges and solutions that need to be followed in letter and spirit.

Slum Rehabilitation programs that are holistically planned are just the first step.
eg. Recent Action Plan released by Maharashtra Govt and BMC.

India's fight against poverty has historically been skewed towards rural poor and it is high time the priorities shift towards urban poor in mission mod

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

16. Violations of women's sexual and reproductive health rights are often deeply engrained in societal values and traditions. Comment.

(250 words) 15

Most Women Movements in contemporary India has tackled issues such as female infanticide, education and violence against women.

Women's Sexual and reproductive health rights are still viewed as a tabboo in the 21st century thus it is not talked about and easily violated.

What are these rights?

- right to decide when to conceive
- right to sexual autonomy → married women, → unmarried women
- right to take treatment → abortions, contraceptive, operations.
- Right to decide number of children to have
- right against marital rape.

How they are violated? • female Genital Mutilation

- Societal tabboo against sexual activity before marriage
- Virginity tests in certain communities
- forced marriages
- Marital rape
- forced conception until male child is born.
- forced to not undergo abortion, against contraceptive
- Divorce if can't conceive

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

How are they engrained in societal values and traditions?

- Historically, women have been seen as child-bearer ~~fo~~ of the family.
- Societal pressure for male child due to economic concerns (property splits to other family if female)
- Women seen as man's property with no identity and autonomy.
- Certain scriptures like Manusmriti view women as secondary citizens.
- Religious sentiments which view women as impure due to menstrual cycle
  eg. Sabrimala issue.
- Many festivals in Indian culture eg. kidnapping brides, etc. can be seen promoting the idea of women as substance.

Way forward

Gender rights need to be present in every domain including the bedroom and global consensus is already moving there with the United Nations Population fund Report for the first time including women's

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

sexual and reproductive rights in country-wide assessment.

The SDG no. 5: Gender Equality talks about equality in all forms which needs to be spread through proper awareness.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

17. What do you understand by the term Land Degradation Neutrality? Highlight its significance and the steps required to achieve it.

(250 words) 15

Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) means to develop degrading land in ways to combat degradation and desertification. It has been promoted by UN Convention for Combatting Desertification (UNCCD) with an aim to achieve LDN by 2030

Significance of land Degradation Neutrality

- Land is degrading at a faster rate today due to many reasons:
  1. Climate change & Global warming
  2. Urbanisation.
  3. Soil erosion.
  5. Over-exploitation
  4. Loss of bio-diversity.
- Land degradation, thus needs to be ~~p~~ curbed as land is a key resource that can't be regenerated on such an extent

Uses of land : 1. Agriculture
2. Bedrock for civilization
3. forests and other ecosystems.
4. Aesthetic value.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

6 Sustaining wildlife and humans.

- The concept of Land for Life clearly underscores the crucial role land plays in sustaining life.

Steps required to achieve it

1. Proper survey, mapping, and data collection as each region is unique.
2. Tackling land pollution in many ways:
   (i) waste management
   (ii) Bioremediation — Bioventing, Biosparging.
3. Enrichment of soil to sustain vegetation that can reverse land degradation.
4. Using invasive species that can grow in harsh conditions to bring in vegetation and wildlife.
5. Area-shed development approach and landscape development approach to be followed.
6. Stakeholder consultation and climate smart occupation to be followed in degraded land which promotes

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

reversal. eg. growing of pulses.

Land Degradation ~~Ne~~ Neutrality is a global challenge more so for Asia and Africa with a burgeoning load of population.

SDG no. 13 tackles Life on Land which envisages proper treatment and sustainable use of land which must be followed in letter and spirit.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

18. State the geographical and economic importance of Hindukush-Himalayan region. How are the critical geographical features of this region changing and what possible consequences will it have? **(250 words) 15**

Hindukush-Himalayan region rightly holds the title of "Third Pole" due to the ice cover in the region.

Its importance can be guaged on two dimensions:

(1) Geographical importance

(i) Source of many rivers - Ganga, Yangtze, Yellow, Brahmaputra, etc.

(ii) Acts as a barrier for cold winds of northern cold dessets, thus India's climate is not severe because of this region

(iii) Acts as a barrier that splits western disturbances, bringing winter rains in India.

(iv) Pressure difference caused by this region ~~affects~~ drives Indian monsoons.

(v) Home to highest peaks of the world

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

② Economic Importance

(i) The rivers its sustains (Yangtze, Ganga) are home to dense population, and economic activity - agriculture, industry.

(ii) Acts as a source of tourism eg. Himalayan trekking etc.

(iii) The monsoon climate impacts entire Indian economy and other countries - Myanmar, Thailand.

(iv) The barrier helps sustain agriculture in northern plains.

(v) Many Himalayan products sourced eg. medicinal plants etc.

Changes in Critical geographical features

① Melting of glaciers more rampant than previous times.

② Glacial lake outburst due to natural and man-made reasons

③ Disappearance of springs

④ Land degradation - landslides, earthquakes, etc.

⑤ Increased erosion in valleys.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Consequence of changes

① Natural disasters
- Floods, cloudburst, landslides, are consequences of the changes.

② Economic Impact
- Livelihoods lost
- Loss of homes, life and property.
- Increased migration to low lands.
  ↳ more stress in these regions.

③ Biodiversity loss.

④ Affects climate of the region
  ↳ change in agriculture patterns etc.

Thus, this region is of immense importance. Initiatives like the Third Pole Platform, NitiAayog paper on Spring managemention. National Action Plan on Himalayan region (part of NAPCC) is the way forward

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

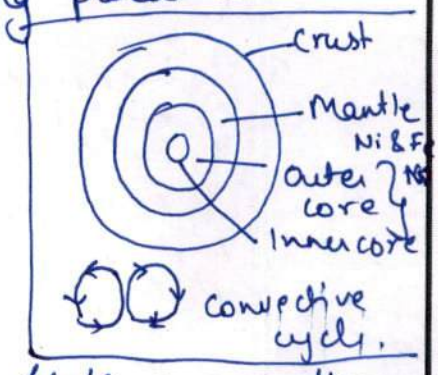
19. What is the most accepted reasoning behind occurrence of earth's magnetism? Discuss the factors behind its variation temporally and spatially. **(250 words) 15**

Earth's magnetism is the magnetic property of the earth. There have been many attempts to explain the phenomenon, the most accepted reasoning is the convection current in the earth's ~~ex~~ core.

The substances that constitute the core Ni (Nickel) and fe (iron) have isherent magnetic property, which imbibes magnetism to the earth.

This magnetism is helpful to maintain balance with sun's magnetism and solar winds.

The Earth's magnetism is not uniform throughout due to shifting poles and direction of magnetism.



FACTORS behind Variation

(i) Temporally

The direction of the earth's magnetism changes with time and it reverses

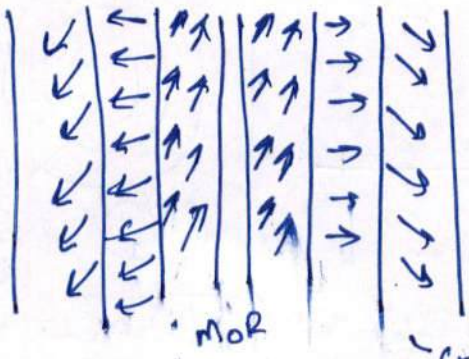
Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

in years as well. Thus the magnetism found in every age differs which is corroborated ~~wit~~ by examining rocks of different age.

② Spatially

When magma solidifies into rock, the magnetism of the rock is fixed and unlike magma does not change with time. Thus, based on the time when the rock was formed, the magnetism there differs.

This is especially seen in mid-oceanic (MOR) ridges where a banded pattern is viewed on either side of MOR showing different magnetism



Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Thus, magnetism anamoly also is an indirect source to study stages in formation of earth and structure of interior of earth

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

20. Explain Walker Circulation. Discuss how it influences Indian Monsoon.

(250 words) 15

Walker Circulation is ~~an~~ an air convection cycle of the tropical region

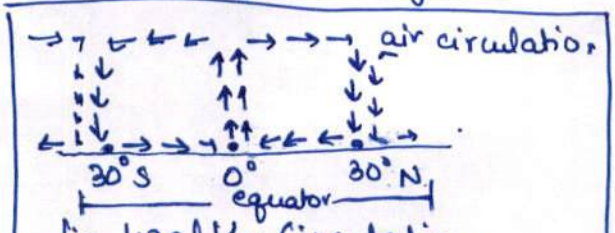


Fig. Walker Circulation

It is characterised by the following:

(i) Thermally induced low pressure at equator causes air to rise.

(ii) In upper atmosphere it diverges towards the tropics in both directions

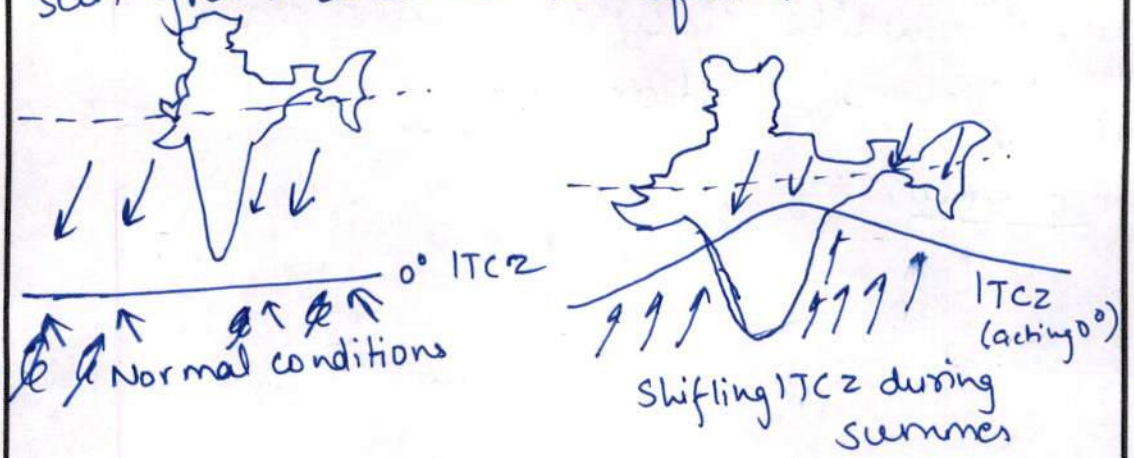
(iii) at 30°N & 30°S dynamically induced high pressure (descending air) which splits and surface wind flows from tropics to the equator (as it is at lower pressure) [trade winds]

(iv) ~~these~~ These winds then rise up at the equator thus completing the entire Walker cycle.

Its influence on monsoon can be seen due to the shift in Inter tropical Convergence Zone which is the

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

~~Ass~~ thermally induced low pressure region which follows the path of the sun from solstices to equinox.



As can be seen in the figure as ITCZ shifts the trade winds travels over the Indian ocean ~~as~~ from Southwest (turn due to coriolis force) direction.

These trade winds take up moisture and then enter Indian sub-continent causing rainfall in India (beginning with Kerala), as winds are on-shore

The Walker cell also affects retreating monsoon as now the ITCZ shifts back to normal conditions.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Thus, trade winds again become off-shore (except in parts of eastern coasts)

Thus, the Walker circulation and trade wind drives the Indian monsoon and our economy

VISION IAS

www.visionias.in

VISION IAS
08 AUG 2019
RECEIVED

GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1243)

Name of Candidate	Karishma Nair		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	514134
Center	ORN	Date	~~5141~~ 8/08/19

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar Delhi- 110009

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

1. Reservation of seats in legislature is needed to ensure meaningful political participation of women and to make the democratic process truly inclusive. Discuss the statement in the light of 108th Constitution Amendment Bill.

(150 words) 10

महिलाओं की सार्थक राजनीतिक सहभागिता सुनिश्चित करने एवं लोकतांत्रिक प्रक्रिया को सही अर्थों में समावेशी बनाने हेतु विधायिका में सीटों के आरक्षण की आवश्यकता है। 108वें संविधान संशोधन विधेयक के आलोक में इस कथन की विवेचना कीजिए।

Participation of women is vital in democratic processes to make the policy landscape more gender-sensitive and representative of the country.

The current LS with 78 (14%) female MPs has been our best performance till date, which paints a dismal picture.

Need for reservation of seats

- Improve the tickets given to women by political parties.
- Women empowerment will be boosted as was seen by the reservation in PRI of 33% for women
- Women can then aim to take key decision-making posts eg. ministers, etc
- Men will start becoming more accommodative of women issues.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Creates a role-model effect for other organisations to hire and reserve posts for women.

In this light, the 108th Constitution Amendment Bill strives to reserve 33% of seats in the LS for women.

The Bill has ~~began~~ reignited the conversation of underrepresentation of women in legislature.

It is a step in the right direction towards achieving SDG no. 5 of reducing Gender Inequality, and to create a coherence of National policy towards women from local government institutions to Parliament.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2. Discuss the issue of reservation in promotions for SCs and STs in public employment in the light of various judicial pronouncements and constitutional amendments. **(150 words) 10**

विभिन्न न्यायिक निर्णयों और संवैधानिक संशोधनों के आलोक में सार्वजनिक नियोजन में SCs और STs के लिए पदोन्नति में आरक्षण के मुद्दे पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Reservation in promotions ~~has~~ for SCs & STs has traversed a long journey of judicial pronouncement & constitutional amendments.

(1) Indira Sawhney Case, 1993

The SC rejected the validity of reservation in promotions for SC & ST.

(2) 77th Constitutional Amendment Act

It amended the constitution to safeguard reservation in promotions for SC and ST. (art. 16(4))

(3) M. Nagraj Case, 2006

The SC upheld the constitutional validity of reservation in promotion for SC/ST with the following caveats:

(1) Proof of their backwardness.
(2) Proof of their underrepresentation.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(3) Causing no harm to the efficiency of the organisation.

(4) Jarnail Singh Case, 2018

- The SC held that the organisation need not give proof of backwardness of SC/ST, as their backwardness was well established, ~~It did~~ as was ~~est~~ suggested in the Nagraj case.
- The apex court also suggested bringing in creamy layer concept for reservation in times to come.

(5) Applicability of resew. in promotion to J&K was endorsed by a Constitutional amendment in 2018.

→ Karnataka's law for reservation for promotion was recently upheld as it gave evidence of committee to prove non-representation.

→ Thus, reservation in promotion is vital to maintain representation of SC/ST in higher echelons, while safeguarding the efficiency.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3. Highlight the reasons behind underperformance of the Autonomous District Councils (ADCs). How can their performance be improved?

(150 words) 10

स्वायत्त जिला परिषदों (ADCs) के निम्नस्तरीय कार्य-निष्पादन के पीछे उत्तरदायी कारणों पर प्रकाश डालिए। उनके कार्य-निष्पादन को कैसे बेहतर किया जा सकता है?

Reasons behind underperformance of Autonomous District Councils:

1. Lack of efficient functionaries
2. Poor public participation.
3. Poor devolution of funds from centre and states.
4. Planning framework is inefficient
5. Oversight and accountability mechanism is lacking.
6. Role of governor not fulfilled properly in most states.
7. Poor representation in state legislature

Improvement

1. Arrange common platform for sharing best practices.
2. Periodic review of functioning by discussion in state legislature

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(3) 2nd ARC → create Legislative Council for states. Improve representation of these ADCs in the legislative council.

(4) fund devolution mechanism to be reviewed and strengthened.

(5) social audit of functioning of ADCs to be conducted.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

4. Highlighting the rationale behind continuance of the Official Secrets Act, critically discuss whether the Right to Information should be given precedence over it. **(150 words) 10**

शासकीय गुप्त बात अधिनियम की निरंतरता के पीछे निहित औचित्य पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या सूचना के अधिकार को इस पर वरीयता दी जानी चाहिए।

The Official Secrets Act, 1923 safeguards the secrets of the nation from disclosure which has ~~recent~~ been called out for being against the spirit of RTI and transparency.

Rationale behind continuance

- Protect information that effects national security and integrity of nation.
- The classification of files is done by top officials and not done arbitrarily.
- All major countries have safeguards for protection of national secrets.
- Needed more at the time when media ethics ~~rush~~ is diminishing & whistleblowing is receiving global attention (eg. Snowden case)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

The 2nd ARC has looked into the issue over RTI v/s OSA and has stated:

(1) Section 8 & section 27 of the RTI categorically states that RTI triumphs over OSA.

(2) It mentions that which level of officer should designate and classify files, thus the number of files in OSA will be rationalised

(3) RTI has inbuilt exemptions within itself (sect. 8) to account for national security, thus relevance of OSA itself is questioned.

(4) The presence of OSA in a vibrant democracy like India was questioned.

The recent case of misuse of OSA, A23 against newspapers could be seen as the last nail in the coffin of OSA which needs to be seriously reviewed.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

5. Write a short note on India Enterprise Architecture (IndEA) framework. Highlighting its main principles, examine how its full fledged implementation can improve the existing governance landscape of India.

(150 words) 10

इंडिया एंटरप्राइज आर्किटेक्चर (IndEA) फ्रेमवर्क पर एक संक्षिप्त लेख लिखिए। इसके प्रमुख सिद्धांतों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, परीक्षण कीजिए कि किस प्रकार इसका पूर्ण कार्यान्वयन भारत के वर्तमान शासन परिदृश्य को उन्नत बना सकता है।

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

6. What is the rationale behind having a mandatory 'cooling-off' period for retired civil servants? In light of numerous instances of violation of this provision, do you think there is a need to have a relook at Civil Services Conduct Rules? **(150 words) 10**

सेवानिवृत्त सिविल सेवकों के लिए अनिवार्य 'उपशमन' अवधि होने के पीछे क्या औचित्य है? इस प्रावधान के उल्लंघन के कई दृष्टांतों के आलोक में, क्या आप मानते हैं कि सिविल सेवा आचरण नियमावली पर पुनर्विचार किए जाने की आवश्यकता है?

The cooling-off period for retired civil servants entails that they are not allowed to take up any post with ~~as~~ the Government ~~of~~ until a stipulated period of time has not passed.

Rationale

- To reduce feeling of obligation while civil servant is in office for future postings.
- Safeguard independence of the civil servants.
- Civil servants are to explore other options in this time and get a fresh perspective for newer responsibilities.
- Political neutrality also remains intact.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Such a cooling-off period is violated which raises questions about integrity of civil servants.

Need to relook Civil Services Conduct Rules

- Increase the mandatory cooling off period.
- Subscribe penalty for not adhering to the guidelines.
- Age of retirement itself must be reviewed according to demographic realities.
- Stricter rules for acceptance of posts after taking VRS before retirement age.

Thus, the essence of the rationale of maintaining independence and neutrality should be prevented from being violated as was enshrined by 2nd ARC.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

7. Highlighting the key features of POSHAN Abhiyan, explain how it is an improvement over previous interventions in achieving the goal of malnutrition free India. **(150 words) 10**

पोषण (POSHAN) अभियान की प्रमुख विशेषताओं पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, समझाइए कि यह कुपोषण मुक्त भारत के लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने में पिछले हस्तक्षेपों की तुलना में कैसे समुन्नत है।

POSHAN Abhiyan (2016) or National Nutrition Scheme aims to form a 'Kupohan Mukt Bharat' by 2022. by raising nutrition levels.

Key features

- Reduce rates of stunting, wasting, anaemia and malnourishment by 2%, 2%, 3% & 2% per annum respectively.
- Reduce stunting rate from 38.4% (NFHS-IV) to 25% by 2022.
- Convergence of all schemes of different ministries related to nutrition in this mission (eg. ICDS, Mid-day Meal scheme, PDS, etc.

It is a major improvement over previous interventions that were isolated schemes because:

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(1) Principle of convergence is followed.
(2) Scheme follows gender sensitivity.
(3) It recognises, enhances the role played by Anganwadi workers and ASHA workers.
(4) It is going to be science and evidence driven.
(5) More concerted efforts in vulnerable areas, districts, populations - better targetting
(6) flexibility given to states to modify the contours of the scheme according to local needs.

Thus, Poshan Abhiyan will provide a major fillip for India to reach the SDG no. 2 of Zero Hunger and tackle the skewed nourishment menace.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

8. Highlighting the need of generic medicines in India, give an account of the reasons behind their lower availability and adoption. Also, mention some steps taken by the government in this regard. **(150 words) 10**

भारत में जेनरिक दवाओं की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, उनकी कम उपलब्धता और स्वीकरण हेतु उत्तरदायी कारणों का विवरण प्रस्तुत कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कुछ कदमों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Ans. Generic medicines are those that have the same active pharmaceutical ingredients, dosage and effectiveness, but differ in that they are not branded.

Reasons behind low availability

- Doctor - pharmaceuti

Need of generic medicines in India

- High population.
- Better affordability.
- Booming industry.
- High export potential.
- High disease burden.
- MSMEs will receive boost.

Lower Availability & adoption

- Pharma shops do not prefer selling these drugs → lower commission.
- Doctor - pharmaceutical company nexus.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Hygiene issues and concerns.
- Trust issues with citizens.
- Poor marketting due to no-branding.
- High competition from domestic and international pharma companies.

Govt. Steps

- Initiative to guide doctors to prescribe generic drugs.
- Pharma shops have been given orders to showcase generic drugs in shops.
- Opening up of Janaushadi Shops to enhance availability.
- Govt. encourages setting up of Janaushadi centres by loans, easy clearances, etc.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

9. Give an account of the challenges that the multilateral rule-based trading system is facing. With special focus on WTO, discuss how these challenges can be addressed effectively. **(150 words) 10**

बहुपक्षीय नियम-आधारित व्यापार प्रणाली द्वारा सामना की जा रही चुनौतियों का विवरण प्रस्तुत कीजिए। WTO पर विशेष बल देते हुए, चर्चा कीजिए कि किस प्रकार इन चुनौतियों का सफलतापूर्वक समाधान किया जा सकता है।

The multi-lateral rule-based trading has been facing challenges evident by the questions on the relevance of WTO.

Challenges

- Rising distrust in these institutions
- Rise in protectionism
  eg. USA - China trade war.
- Rules are flouted by big economies and the system cannot change this scenario
- Growing bi-lateralism & pluri-lateralism reduces the need for multilateralism
- Growing mistrust within countries.
- Resolution and working of organisations sabotaged.
  eg. USA hampering dispute resolution mechanism of WTO.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Addressing the challenges : WTO

- Move from consensus based decisions to majority based decision
- Taking strict actions against parties violating the order.
- Encouraging bilateralism as being supportive of multilateralism rather than competing with it.
- Create a permanent establishment of representatives to maintain continuous monitoring, instead of periodic reviews.
- Take suo-moto cognisance of offences.

→ Thus, the threat faced by WTO can only be curbed by building a global narrative for strengthening WTO

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10. Highlight the major impediments affecting India-US trade relations. What possible consequences can the recent withdrawal of Generalized System of Preference (GSP) have on India-US trade relations? **(150 words) 10**

भारत-अमेरिका व्यापार संबंधों को प्रभावित करने वाले प्रमुख अवरोधों पर प्रकाश डालिए। हाल ही में, अधिमानता की सामान्यीकृत प्रणाली (जनरलाईज्ड सिस्टम ऑफ़ प्रेफेरेंस: GSP) की समाप्ति से भारत-अमेरिका व्यापार संबंधों पर क्या संभावित प्रभाव पड़ सकता है?

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

11. In a democratic setup, it is imperative that independence be balanced with accountability. Discuss in the context of judiciary in India. **(250 words) 15**

किसी भी लोकतांत्रिक व्यवस्था में, यह अत्यावश्यक है कि स्वतंत्रता को जवाबदेही के साथ संतुलित किया जाए। भारत में न्यायपालिका के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

The recent ~~episo~~ case of allegations against the CJI raised a debate about the golden balance between accountability and independence of the judiciary.

Finding the balance

- Independence is vital to maintain separation of power from executive and legislature.
- Accountability to people should not be viewed as being against principle of independence.
- Accountability is enshrined in concept of 'checks and balances' which is vital extension of separation of powers.

Maintenance of Independence

- Constitution safeguards the appointment.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

, tenure & service conditions of judiciary.

- Can't be removed without ~~pro~~ following procedure in Art. 124 and 217 and the Judges Enquiry Act, 1968.
- Salaries charged on Consolidated fund, not subject to voting.
- Conduct of judges can't be discussed other than in removal procedures (art 121)
- Judges barred from ~~taking~~ practising after retirement.
- Contempt of court proceedings

Accountability maintained

- Legislature may remove the judges (although procedure is difficult)
- Media to act as a watchdog and report the case details of judiciary.
- e-governance enhanced through e-courts.
- In-house procedure to tackle complaints against judiciary.
- Open court procedures.

However, Accountability of judiciary is still lacking & needs improvement.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

① Judges Performance Index as proposed by Niti Aayog.

② Including judiciary under the ambit of RTI.

③ Video-telecasting of cases as was recently proposed.

④ Grievance redressal mechanism of courts should be enhanced by using Citizens' Charter for courts.

⑤ AIJS should be instituted and administrative cadre also setup such that uniformity of services prevails around the country.

⑥ Case tracking system

Thus, the judiciary tilts more towards independence and needs enhancement in accountability to strike the fine balance.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

12. Despite various strengths, there are certain weaknesses in the existing structure of departments of the government which render the system slow and cumbersome. Analyze. **(250 words) 15**

विभिन्न गुणों के बावजूद, सरकार के विभागों की वर्तमान संरचना में कुछ दुर्बलताएं विद्यमान हैं जो व्यवस्था को धीमा और बोझिल बना देती हैं। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The structure of departments of the government was first envisioned by Gopalswami Aiyangar committee which has undegone many changes with years.

Strengths of structure of departments

(1) Departmentalisation according to 4P's:

(i) Purpose (Defence, production, expenditure etc.)
(ii) Process (Dept. of AAYUSH)
(iii) Place (Dept. of North East)
(iv) Persons (Dept. of Women, Tribals etc.)

(2) A clear hierarchy is maintained.

Ministry
↓
Dept.
↓
Division
↓
Wing
↓
Section
↓
Desk office system.

Attached offices
Subordinate office

• The superior node ensures checks and balances, accountability

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(3) Span of control of officials will be lesser, more efficiency.

(4) Clear distinction between line officials and staff officials decreases interference and improves efficiency.

(5) The desk office system (recommended by 1st ARC is an encompassing office that deals with work efficiently.

Weaknesses

- Weberian bureacracy increases time of decision making.
- Multiple levels leads to deferring of responsibility.
- Empire building tendency of departments, thus, liaisons with other departments is low, holistic problem solving is harmed.
- Conflicts between line and staff leads to problems of coordination.
- May lead to arm-chair legislation as there is no direct contact with ground reality.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Information asymmetry between different levels is visible.
- Cause of red-tapism within departments due to rigidity of structure.

The 2nd ARC has recommended flatter structures and rationalisation of departments, and using techniques of e-governance and MIS to enhance the efficiency of depts., such that files should go through a maximum of 3 levels.

Thus, improvements can be made by maintaining the positives of the structure, but enhancing the speed through these suggestions.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

13. In the light of criticism surrounding the composition and functioning of Rajya Sabha, do you think it exists merely as a secondary house of the Parliament? **(250 words) 15**

राज्यसभा की संरचना और कार्यप्रणाली से संबद्ध आलोचना के प्रकाश में, क्या आप मानते हैं कि इसका अस्तित्व केवल संसद के एक द्वितीयक सदन के रूप में है?

The Rajya Sabha according to Art. 79 of the Indian Constitution is a key constituent of the Parliament. However in recent times its relevance is questioned and it is being termed the secondary house.

Composition and criticism

- Art. 81 mentions the composition of Rajya Sabha to include members elected ~~from~~ by elected members of state legislative Assemblies
- President nominates 12 members to Rajya Sabha.
- RS also has proportional representation of states and not equal representation, thus shadowing the same principles of LS.
- RS members are considered to be people who have failed to receive direct mandate of people, and use RS to enter the parliament

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

functioning and Criticisms

1. Legislative functions: has the same powers as LS for ordinary bills.
2. financial functions: though budget is not voted for, discussions do take place in RS.
3. Is seen as the delaying house.
4. High absenteeism in RS.
5. Huge amount of disruption and adjournements.
6. Representation of states is shadowed by party affiliations.

RS: Much more than Secondary House

- The framers of the Constitution saw vitality in having a continuous chamber of the Parliament.
- Prevents hasty legislations from being passed.
- Provides more detailed deliberations.
- Can pass resolution to constitute AIS (art 312), and to allow Parliament to

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

legislate on state subjects (art. 249)
• Provides representation to learned minds that are unable to go through the process of elections.
• Representation in important committees (eg. PAC)
The recent ~~pr~~ RS sittings was seen as the most productive session in 17 years, and the Chairman's extolling of reducing disruptions is a positive step enshrining the respect that 'House of Elders' should garner

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

14. Despite legislative changes with respect to funding of political parties in recent years, many challenges still exist with regards to transparency in electoral funding. Discuss. Can state funding of elections help in addressing these challenges? **(250 words) 15**

हाल के वर्षों में राजनीतिक दलों के वित्त-पोषण के संबंध में विधायी परिवर्तनों के बावजूद, चुनावी वित्त-पोषण में पारदर्शिता संबंधी कई चुनौतियां अभी भी बनी हुई हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। क्या राज्य द्वारा चुनावों का वित्त-पोषण इन चुनौतियों को दूर करने में सहायता कर सकता है?

funding of political parties has a direct bearing on free and fair elections in the country. The recent legislative change of Electoral Bonds is part of a long list of changes that limits the funding procedure & expenditure.

~~that~~ The key changes through finance Act 2017.

- Electoral bonds to be used for funding above ₹2,000 for political parties.
- Scheme to apply to parties receiving 1% of votes in the previous elections.
- Only SBI is authorised for sale of electoral bonds.
- Bond is anonymous, thus parties need not disclose the names.
- The limit of 7.5% of profit of companies to be donated has been removed.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Companies need not ~~a~~ now discuss the donations in their annual meetings.

~~Challenges~~

Key benefit → Donation in cash is curbed, thus pumping in of black money can be tackled.

Challenges

- Anonymous donations, need not be disclosed to Election Commission as well.
- Questions raised about smaller parties who don't fit under the ambit.
- Recent data suggests that more than 90% bonds were submitted and encashed by the ruling party.
- The State-owned SBI still contains data about bond purchases that can be used by the government.
- Usage of shell companies will now be ~~Stat~~ rampant for donations.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

State funding of Elections

SY Qureshi (Former CEC) has vouched for such a step through setting up of National Electoral fund.

It will bring in transparency because:

1. State will keep detailed record and can also check commensurate expenditure
2. funds to be disbursed according to election needs, will curb false inducements of voters and doles.
3. Disclosure through ECI websites.

Concerns

- State funding will become auxillary to political party funds, thus against the smaller parties.
- ~~Re~~ fiscal implications on the state.

Way forward

- Bringing in Political Parties under the RTI will usher in a sense of transparency in electoral funding, and state funding could work after a consensus is built and the logistics established.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

15. Successful and long-lasting urban transformation critically depends on reforming the way our cities are governed. In this context, highlight the challenges plaguing urban governance in India and suggest some strategies to overcome those challenges. **(250 words) 15**

सफल और चिरस्थायी शहरी रूपांतरण मुख्यतया, हमारे शहरों को शासित करने के तरीके में सुधार पर निर्भर करता है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में शहरी शासन को दुष्प्रभावित करने वाली चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालिए और इन चुनौतियों को दूर करने के लिए कुछ रणनीतियों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Urban governance was given constitutional status in 1992 vide the 74th Amendment Act. However, the ULBs are still not uniform in its performance and urban governance is deficit and also faced with new challenges eg. climate change, security threats etc.

Challenges in Urban Governance

1. Paucity of functions (243-W), functionaries, funds and framework.
2. State finance Commission (243-Y) is not constituted on time and its recommendations are not upheld
3. District Planning Committee and Metropolitan Planning Committe (243-ZD and 243-ZE) are not formed or functioning effectively
∴ haphazard urbanisation

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

4. functional challenges
   1. Sewage management
   2. Water supply (4-6 hrs average supply/day in cities)
   3. Urban transport - public transport overburdened, threat to environment
   4. Housing challenge - slums and shanties.
   5. Crimes, law & order.

5. Poor citizen participation in urban governance as opposed to rural areas.

6. Skewed urbanisation (Tier I cities)

The Ahluwalia Committee assessed the functioning of urban governance and provided insights on the level of problem

Suggestions and Strategies

- Ahluwalia Committee report recommended using PPP model for urban local governance eg. for ~~sewag~~ garbage collection & disposal.
- 2nd ARC recommended setting up of National Commission on Urbanisation

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

to look into the challenges.

- The planning framework should be strengthened at urban local level.
- Enhance citizen participation, eg. Mohalla Committees for law & order, Resident Welfare Association (RWA) participation.
- ~~Seco~~ 2nd ARC recommended setting up Area Sabhas (3000-4000 popn.) to identify and solve problems in a more effective way.
- State FC should augm the funds needed for ULBs.
- Dedicated cadre for city management may be formed for effective administration.

With the current urban population (31% Census 2011) estimated to rise to 50% by 2050, a push towards urban Governance is the need of the hour. Schemes like AMRUT and Smart Cities Mission are steps in the right direction

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

16. Explain the role that SHGs play in poverty alleviation in India. Highlighting the shortcomings of the SHG-Bank Linkage programme, give some suggestions to improve its performance. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में निर्धनता उन्मूलन में SHGs द्वारा निभाई जा रही भूमिका को स्पष्ट कीजिए। SHG-बैंक लिंकेज कार्यक्रम की कमियों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, इसके निष्पादन में सुधार लाने हेतु कुछ सुझाव दीजिए।

- SHGs are groups of people with similar financial wherewithal who synergise and enhance savings to create a surplus that can be shared, loaned to amongst members.
- The collateral of such loans is trust and peer pressure.

Role in Poverty alleviation

- Enhances purchasing power of members.
- Enterprising ability improves.
  eg. loans for setting up business.
- The compulsory meetings can help guage position & need of members.
- Banks lend to SHG members at a priority lending rate.
- SHGs also account for interest subvention schemes of states.
  eg. Andhra Pradesh.
- SHGs may create employment
  eg. Kudumbashree model of Kerala.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Money not wasted on demerit goods, rather culture of thrift and savings is enhanced.
- The interest charged by SHGs return to the corpus, thus the money in SHGs is always available within the group.
- Leads to women empowerment which expedites poverty alleviation

The SHG-Bank linkage programmes of NABARD (1992) that began with over 500 SHGs has now grown to include around 67 lakh SHGs.

Shortcomings

- Banks ask for collateral while lending that members of SHG may not possess.
  eg. recent case in Tamil Nadu.
- Inability to pay back loans to banks, causes SHGs themselves to disintegrate
- The lending rate to SHGs is not competitive for banks, run the risk of becoming NPA.
- Poor awareness amongst SHG members about functioning & benefits of banking.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- The Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) within SHGs reduces the unity of the SHGs as it becomes compartmentalised.
- Not all banks participate in the programme

Suggestions

- Financial literacy of SHG members must be enhanced.
- Involving NGOs & Civil society to act as a helping hand for banking needs of SHGs.
- The credits given to SHGs by banks should be open to social auditing.
- Involve Panchayati Raj Institutions to check for progress and reduce defaults.
- Involve more number of banks in the programme.

Thus, SHGs are to get a vital boost by the Bank Linkage programme provided its essence as mentioned by SK Kalia Committee trickles down to its members

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

17. Despite initiatives taken by the government in recent years to address the challenges of the Indian higher education system, many reforms are still required to improve its quality and enhance its relevance. Analyse.

(250 words) 15

भारतीय उच्च शिक्षा प्रणाली की चुनौतियों का समाधान करने के लिए विगत वर्षों में सरकार द्वारा की गई पहलों के बावजूद, इसकी गुणवत्ता में सुधार लाने और इसकी प्रासंगिकता बढ़ाने हेतु अभी भी कई सुधारों की आवश्यकता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The higher education ~~system~~ enrollment in India is a miniscule 25% against the enrollment in primary education of 90-95%, which proves the failure in the system.

Initiatives by Govt. for Higher Education

1. Proposal to set up Higher Education Council of India (HECI) by replacing UGC.
2. Rashtriya Uchhatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) to enhance quality of higher education.
3. GIAN, SPARC schemes to enhance global cooperation.
4. IMPRINT scheme to enhance research in higher education.
5. Initiative to designate Institutes of Eminence (IoE) to increase global competitiveness.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(6) National higher education ranking indices to improve competition amongst HEIs.

However, the challenges in this sector are stark:

(1) Low enrollment (25%)

(2) Low employability (54%) of passing out students

(3) Qualified Teachers' paucity.

(4) Absence of research orientation.

(5) Poor infrastructure and poor quality of curriculum that is not periodically revised.

(6) foreign students, faculties are not attracted.*

(7) Questions about autonomy of such institutions.

(8) Concerns about affordability and privatisation*.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Reforms required

The Draft National Education Policy 2019, suggests many reforms in higher education:

① Categorisation into 3 institutional categories:
1→ inst. for research.
2→ research + teaching.
3→ Colleges
which will enhance competition of HEIs.

② Enhance foreign faculty and students through schemes like Study in India, Global Universities to be invited.

③ Major push for research through establishment of National Research foundation (NRF)

④ Provide more scholarships to enhance enrollment.

⑤ Providing more autonomy for setting curriculum, setting fees, etc.

⑥ focus on liberal arts & education

Thus, the Higher Education system is marred by rigidity and policy uncertainty which is to get a paradigm shift through implementation of recommendations

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

18. Giving an account of the progress made under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, mention the challenges that it faces in achieving its target. How can the implementation of the programme be fast-tracked? **(250 words) 15**

प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना के अंतर्गत हुई प्रगति का विवरण प्रस्तुत करते हुए, अपने लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने में इस योजना के समक्ष आने वाली चुनौतियों का उल्लेख कीजिए। इस कार्यक्रम के कार्यान्वयन को किस प्रकार त्वरित किया जा सकता है?

The Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) evisages Housing for All by 2022.

It involves both an Urban and a Grameen component to address holistically the concerns of Housing, stress migration, transport problems, vital amenities in houses etc.

PMAY components (Urban)
- → beneficiary-led reconstruction
- → Credit linked subsidy scheme.
- → Building & reconstruction in partnership.
- → In-situ Slum rehabilation.

Progress

- The PMAY-G is much more successfull than PMAY-U.
- The Ministry of Urban Development estimates that the target is to be reached in time.
- Slum transformation schemes developed

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

by states eg. Maharashtra.

- States given flexibility to innovate in the scheme.
- Incorporated with schemes like AMRUT and Smart Cities Mission.

CHALLENGES

1. Problem of land acquisition
2. Quality of houses, contractors, etc. is questioned.
3. GST rates of cement is in 28% slab, fiscal implications.
4. Private players are not well incentivised to enter the scheme.
5. Sub-letting of built houses by beneficiaries is high.
6. The maintenance of basic amenities in the built houses is poor, and accountability to fix it is poor.
7. fund utilisation by states is inefficient.
8. Translocation of beneficiaries, families etc. is a challenge

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Improvements needed

- Improve vertical expansion by looking for correct floor-space Index.
- Incorporate real estate under GST to benefit from input tax credit.
- Quality check of raw material used must be standardised and institutional-ised.
- Beneficiaries should be made aware against sub-letting.
- Convergence with other schemes for basic amenities must be overlooked by competent authority.
- Incentivise private sector participation.
- Implementation of RERA in states for overall efficiency in housing sector.

Thus, PMAY is set to be a game changer provided accountability mechanisms are in place for achieving the stated targets

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

19. Island nations of the Indian Ocean hold immense strategic value in shaping the geopolitical contours of the region and ensuring maritime security of India. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

हिंद महासागर के द्वीपीय राष्ट्र इस क्षेत्र की भू-राजनीतिक रूप-रेखा को आकार देने और भारत की समुद्री सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने में अत्यधिक रणनीतिक महत्व रखते हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

The island nations that were long neglected are gaining traction in the geopolitical discourse of the Indian Ocean.

The nations have been used by countries such as China, USA, France, etc. due to its strategic value. India is soon realising the same to shape the geopolitical contours & ensure maritime security.

Strategic Value → In geopolitics

- Global sea route accounts for major trade and these nations position is vital in maintaining trade.
- Maintenance of sea lanes of communication.
- Ideal to form military bases eg. Diego Garcia by USA, to track the Indian ocean region

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- China is beginning to use these nations to surround India. eg. China's interest in Maldives.
- India maintains relations with these countries (eg. Maldives, Mauritius etc.) to counter China's threats.
- Oil supply can be curbed using these sea lines, thus affecting global geopolitics.
- Colonisation is thus still prevalent in these nations due to their strategic value. eg. Reunion Island by France. Agalega by UK.
- Presence of polymetallic Nodules in IOR can be exploited through these countries.

In maritime Security

- Menace of piracy affects the IOR which can be tackled ~~with~~ by cooperation with these countries.
- Military & Naval exercises conducted to prevent illegal trafficking of drugs

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

, etc. through sea.

- Hostile movements of vessels of other nations can be curbed using naval bases in these countries.

Thus, a concerted effort to reach out to these countries is vital. India has a advantage of cultural affiliation through Project Mausam, and by helping face common threat of climate change

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

20. Development assistance, a key instrument in India's foreign policy, has seen a considerable expansion in the past few years both in its scope and reach. Elucidate. **(250 words) 15**

भारतीय विदेश नीति के एक प्रमुख साधन के रूप में 'विकास सहायता' के दायरे और पहुँच दोनों में विगत कुछ वर्षों में काफ़ी विस्तार देखा गया है। सविस्तार स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Development assistance (DA) is the aid provided by India to developing and underdeveloped countries.

In due course of time this instrument has been seen complementary to the assistance provided by first world, but is more accepted due to India's soft power as well.

Expansion in scope

India is now aiding countries in myriad fields:

1. Education
2. Health. (diseases' cure, generic medicines)
3. Infrastructure development.
   - Communication (Roads)
   - Energy (dams, etc.)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(4) Democracy development
- building Parliament in Afghanistan.

(5) Counter-terrorism efforts & internal security issues eg. in Africa.

(6) Rebuilding nations after Natural disasters eg. Nepal.

Expansion in Reach

- We began with our smaller neighbours like Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, etc.
- African continent has become a major beneficiary of IDA.
- India is looking to donate to other countries in Central Asia, Afghanistan, etc.
- Unexplored South American continent is also on the agenda.
- The IOR island nations require developmental assistance & disaster relief care.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Thus, India's clout in foreign policy is set to rise with the expansion in our development assistance instrument.

50

VISION IAS

www.visionias.in

VISION IAS
26 AUG 2019
NO. 03
RECEIVED

GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1247)

Name of Candidate	Karishma Nair		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	514134
Center	ORN	Date	21/08/19

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH**
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar Delhi- 110009

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

1. Mention the structure and functions of NITI Aayog. Also, comment on its contemporary relevance. **(150 words) 10**

Niti Aayog (2015) was set up as a replacement of Planning Commission to usher in new spirits in federalism.

Structure

① Governing Council : PM & CMs of all States, heads of UTs. + CEO. + Vice Chairman.

② Team India Wing - to maintain federalism

③ Regional Council - to tackle regional issues (includes CMs of regions' states)

④ Innovation Wing.

⑤ Knowledge & Resource Hub.

Functions → Upholds cooperative & competitive federalism

- Acts as a policy think-tank for Govt.
- Acts as a plan aggregator for states plans to streamline with national narrative.
- Create vision documents, strategy statements,
- ~~Under~~ Act as a knowledge & resource hub for the states.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Undertakes schemes eg. Atal Innovation Mission, Ek Bharat Shresht Bharat
- Enhances accountability & evidence-based decision making through Detailed Monitoring & Evaluation Office

Contemporary Relevance

- Need to reinvigorate spirit of cooperative & competitive federalism
- Assists and assesses achievement of SDGs by states
- Reports on contemporary issues eg. Shrinking springs in Himalaya, Electric Vehicles, Judicial reforms, etc.

Vijay Kelkar recommends that Niti Aayog 2.0 must be given powers for financial allocation to improve its efficacy & support for finance Commission

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2. Critically discuss the practice of setting up Fast Track Courts to reduce pendency of cases in the judiciary. **(150 words) 10**

Fast Track Courts are special courts setup for speedy trials and disposal of cases of a particular type pending with judiciary.
eg. POCSO Act, Electoral Offences etc.
Offences

Positives of fast Track Courts

- On the principles of natural justice and 'justice delayed is justice denied'
- Sensitive cases require speedy trials & conviction to maintain credibility of criminal justice system.
- Acts as a deterrent as people will not bank on the judicial proceedings to be long drawn.
- Lesser adjournments, vacancies in such courts ⇒ Efficiency of courts higher.

Negatives of the practice

- FTCs themselves are overburdened, thus are no longer fast track.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Summary trials may be careless just for faster disposal.
- Appeals ~~of~~ against FTC lies in normal courts, thus pendency is not removed it is just deferred. This causes double burden on judiciary.
- Quality of judges & justice in FTC is questioned.
- In many cases, there is laxity in setting up FTC.

⇒ The recent SC directive of setting FTC in districts with more than 100 cases of POCSO are pending, just proves the kind of faith FTCs garner as being a panacea for pendency, but this view should be qualified.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3. Highlight the challenges faced by lower judiciary in India and suggest measures for enhancing their productivity. **(150 words) 10**

The lower judiciary is the first interface of the public with judicial system, thus its efficiency is vital to maintain credibility of judiciary.

Challenges faced by lower judiciary

1. High vacancy (25% of all judicial vacancy)
2. High pendency of cases : 2.93 cr cases
3. Poor infrastructure and maintenance.
   - Capacity of buildings limited by space availability. (only 0.09% of GDP spent on such infra)
4. High prevalence of corruption.
5. Quality of judicial officers and administrative force is poor.
6. Prevalence of trivial cases, take up time of judiciary.
7. Heavy dependence on paper-work & other parochial practices

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Measures to enhance productivity

1. All India Judicial Services to be instituted to maintain quality of judges & reduce vacancy
2. Institutionalising e-Courts and other e-governance mechanism.
3. Infrastructure upgradation, vertical expansion wherever needed.
4. Niti Aayog's Judicial Performance Index to be followed to create accountability.
5. Reduce vacations of judges, and the number of adjournments to reduce pendency of cases.
6. Repealing ~~old~~ redundant laws to reduce pressure on lower judiciary.

⇒ Thus, judicial efficiency has to be built from bottom up as it has a direct bearing on the ease of doing business as well

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

4. Assess the need to formalise the process of post-legislative scrutiny to improve the effectiveness of laws. **(150 words) 10**

Post-legislative scrutiny entails assessing the effectiveness of a legislation in fulfilling its objectives & in providing necessary changes

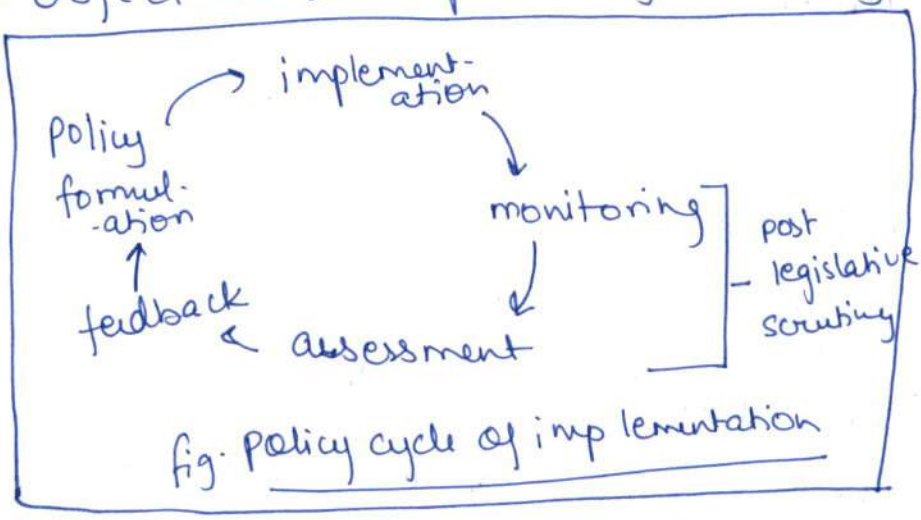


fig. Policy cycle of implementation

Post-legislative scrutiny is needed because:

1. Recognition of implementation bottlenecks
2. Check for any negative externalities.
   eg. LPG subsidies affecting push for bio-ethanol.
3. Stakeholder responses received & effective grievance redressal.
4. Policy suggestions can lead to policy improvement.
5. Redundant & ineffective policy can be curtailed or taken back.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(6) Prevents arm-chair legislation.
(7) Enhances accountability of legislators.
(8) Reduces scope of misuse of delegated legislation.

The formal set up must include:

(1) Social audits
(2) Independent audits.
(3) Wide public consultations
(4) Expert & academia consultation.

The effectiveness of law depends on its implementation & not its intent, thus a formal channel for post-legislative scrutiny is necessary as is mandated in UK & Canada.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

5. Discuss the potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in improving the effectiveness of e-governance in India. **(150 words) 10**

Niti Aayog's paper on AI in different sectors missed out on e-governance as a key area where AI can ~~be~~ bring in a paradigm shift.

Potential of AI in improving effectiveness of e-gov.

* fore-casting problems while creating governance models.
* Reducing human interface, even at back-end, thus curbing discretion & corruption
* Creating flatter structures & reducing bureaucratic red-tapism.
* Greater synchronisation between various nodes & modes of e-governance
* effective learning on the go while monitoring governance, thus reducing time required in improvements.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

However, the drawbacks of AI in e-gov should also be taken into account:

1. Value component of human interaction missing.
2. Ethical decision making & emotional intelligence lacking.
3. May develop own system that would preclude human intervention.
4. Accountability and responsibility of AI is a cause of concern.

⇒ Thus, effective research on the use of AI in e-governance must be undertaken to use the same while minimising concerns.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

6. Despite various reforms in the public grievance redressal mechanisms, their effectiveness remain limited. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

India became the 1st country to release the Sevottam model which envisioned Grievance Redressal as a precursor for excellence in service delivery.

Various Reforms
- → e-Grievance Redressal eg. SHE box.
- → Monitoring & tracking of Grievance redressal.
- → Action taken notification.
- → Included as part of Citizens' Charter.

Limited Effectiveness because:

1. Poor awareness among citizens, apathy of citizens.
2. e-Grievance Redressal is ineffective until populace is digitally literate.
3. Grievance Redressal remains top-down & does not include behavioral change for redressal in low level works.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(4) Bureaucratic red tapism makes GRM a long process.

(5) Use of informal means eg. protests, personal complaints etc. is resorted to.

(6) Lack of coordination between back-end & interface.

(7) GR not included in peformance appraisal.

(8) Poor sensitivity training of govt. officials.

The 360° appraisal system will be a game-changer in enhancing effectiveness of GRM.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

7. Explaining the factors that contribute to trafficking of women and children in India, highlight the steps taken in recent times to combat it.

(150 words) 10

Women and children are trafficked both within & outside borders for labour, sexual work, marriage, etc.

factors that contribute to trafficking

WOMEN

- Economic dependence
- Seen as burden of family
- Poor education & confidence
- Violence within homes.
- Flesh trade rampant in both urban & rural areas.
- Act as cheap labour, bonded labour.

CHILDREN

- Poverty.
- lack of education, failure of RTE.
- Cheap & bonded labour.
- Paedophilic tendencies in sex markets.
- for extortion, kidnapping, begging, etc.
- cyber vulnerabilities

Steps taken in recent times

- Ujjwala scheme for rehabilition of ~~woo~~ trafficked women.
- Anti-Trafficking Bill passed to tackle trafficking at source, destination & travel.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Women & Child helpline
- Reduce cyber vulnerability of women & children through CCPWC.
- Swayam Siddha scheme by West Bengal Govt. which has highest burden of trafficking.
- Effective enforcement of RTE & tracking children through apps by Bachpan Bachao Andolan.
- MLAT with Myanmar

→ The duty of the govt. to prevent women & children is immense due to their vulnerability which is perpetuated by power, impunity & silence

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

8. With Vector-Borne Diseases (VBDs) reaching epidemic proportions in India, highlight the factors that have led to their emergence. Also, suggest some measures for their effective control and management. **(150 words) 10**

Vector-Borne Disease (VBDs) are diseases that are carried ~~&~~, spred & transmitted through vectors like animals, insects, etc.

Recent cases of swine flu, Nipah, etc raises concerns about India's preparedness to handle such diseases.

Factors leading to emergence

- Tropical climate of India is conducive.
- Higher man-animal interactions.
- Vectors are usually common pollinators, insects (mosquitoes) that have wide prevalence in India.
- Unhygienic conditions leads to breeding of such infected vectors.
  eg. water-logging.
- Poor awareness & late diagnosis leads to ~~indef~~ ineffective treatment.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Hospitals are unhygienic.

Measures for control & management

- Prevent breeding of vectors like mosquitoes, etc using perticides.
- Maintain hygienic living conditions.
- Hospitals' hygiene to be enhanced
  - Kayakalp scheme.
- Invest in R&D because tropical diseases are neglected thus needs to be tackled with indigenisation.
- Prevent spread of false rumours & panic.
- fumigation, isolation wards, capacity building etc. will go a long way in preparedness against VBD.

↳ The burden ~~for~~ of VBD needs to be tackled for harnessing demographic dividend & fulfilling SDG 3 - Health for All.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

9. After years of neglect, rapidly evolving regional strategic realities are now forcing India and Indonesia to coordinate their policies ever more closely. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10. Despite several attempts at resetting the ties, various barriers continue to be a cause of concern in the India-Nepal bilateral relations. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

11. Delineate the differences between pressure groups and interest groups. Citing examples, elaborate on the ways in which pressure groups influence government decisions and policy making in India. **(250 words) 15**

Pressure groups and interest groups influence policy-making to further their own interest, or interest of society at large. They are important non-institutional determinants of decision making.

Differences between the two

- Pressure groups are more formalised with their agenda than interest groups.
- Pressure groups usually further their own objectives as opposed to interest groups that may further other voiceless groups' objectives.
- Pressure groups ~~are~~ use formal channels like lobbying as well as non-formal methods eg. protests.
- Pressure groups are more successful in guiding policy than ~~pressure~~ interest groups.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Pressure Groups influence govt. decision making & policies by:

(1) Lobbying with the Govt.

eg. FICCI acts as an industrial pressure group for the govt.

(2) Using public fora & awareness

- Press releases, editorials in newspapers to create public narrative for policy.
  eg. India Against Corruption Campaign.

(3) Protests & andolans

Leads to governance paralysis to grab attention.
eg. Silent march by farmers' groups in Mumbai & Delhi highlighting farmer distress.

(4) Legal route

PILs etc. are filed against govt. policy by pressure groups for judicial review of policy. eg. Naz foundation for LGBT against Sec. 377.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(5) Use of global pressure by creating cross-border person-to-person connects, NRI, diaspora pressure, etc.

→ Thus, pressure groups are an important component of policy making such that Govt. holds formal consultations with these groups before releasing most policies.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

12. Highlighting the issues faced by the institutions of local self governance in India, suggest measures that can be taken to improve their effectiveness in the delivery of public goods and services at the grassroot level.

(250 words) 15

Ans. The institutions of local self-governance were envisaged to give teeth to PRINCIPLE of SUBSIDIARITY through 73rd & 74th Amendment Act, 1992.

Though the set up has constitutional status its efficacy is questioned due to the challenges it faces.

2nd ARC in its 6th Report of Local Governance highlighted many challenges faced:

1. Lack of transfer of functions from state governments (art. 243-G & 243-W)
2. Lack of skilled functionaries due to absence of dedicated cadre
3. Crunch for funds due to poor devolution & inability to generate own revenue (only 3% of total revenue)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(4) Elections to these bodies are not regularised due to poor functioning of state Election Commission (art. 243-K)

(5) State finance Commissions (art 243-I & 4) are largely dysfunctional in recommendation.

(6) Lack of coherence between rural & urban bodies due to poor functioning of District Planning Councils (art. 243-ZD)

(7) Poor citizen participation in local governance due to apathy / poor awareness.

(8) Poor representation of local bodies in State legislatures.

Measures to improve effectiveness

(1) Ensure devolution of funds, functions, functionaries & framework (4F's) to clear operational bottlenecks.

(2) 2nd ARC recommends creating State Legislative Councils in every state

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

to enhance representation of local bodies in legislatures.

(3) Capacity building of PRIs & ULBs by creating platform for interaction with SHGs & Resident Welfare Associations (RWA), etc.

(4) Involve private sector as PPP models to handle issues of local governance eg. waste management & disposal.

(5) Effective public outreach (eg. GP Development Plan) & grievance redressal mechanism to be in place.

(6) Incorporating e-governance in local governance (eg. e-Office)

(7) Institutionalise Local Body Ombudsman to enhance accountability.

For effective functioning of local governance political will & citizen centricity is vital for example Bhagidari system in Delhi

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

13. The recent amendment to the Right to Information Act, 2005 will weaken the act and undermine the authority of Information Commissioners. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

Ans. The RTI Act, 2005 envisaged an independent set up to ensure ~~of~~ transparency, accountability & democratisation of information.

The recent amendments to the Act have faced flak for increased government interference in the functioning of Information Commissions.

Key Changes in the Amendment

- Central govt. to decide the tenure of the Information Commissions (including states) as opposed to present 5 years.
- Central Govt. to determine salaries & service conditions of the Information Commissioners & removing present parity with Election Commissioners & Chief Secretaries (for SICs).

Need

- It was brought to correct the anomaly ~~between~~ in equating a constitutional & non-constitutional position and of appeals to

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

High Courts, when CIC status is on par with SC judges.

Weakening of act & undermining IC's authority

- Concerns that ~~term~~ tenure & conditions will affect the independence of the ICs.
- Concerns regarding usurping states' power.
- IC's may give verdicts favourable to the govt.

However, the amendment, on closer examination allays such fears because:

1. Appointment of ICs is not tweaked and is still through collegium.
2. ~~Terms~~ Tenure will be fixed before appointment which will not influence ICs in service.
3. The success of the Act remains in suo moto declarations which has not been weakened.
4. The authority of CIC is still supreme when it comes to disputes regarding RTI, and has to be appealed in designated

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

courts only.

(8) The salaries, service condition should not affect people with such moral turpitude who are appointed as ICs.

→ Thus, prima facie the amendment does increase scope for misuse, but it does not undermine the Act & its cause for transparency by mere technical changes

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

14. Highlight the process of delimitation in India. Also, throw light on the debates surrounding the delimitation exercise in India. **(250 words) 15**

Delimitation is the demarcation of ~~constituencies~~ seats to states and constituencies within states such that the proportion of population to elected representatives remains the same throughout the country.

It is guaranteed by art 81 and 82 of the Constitution, and the Delimitation Commission is the designated authority for this function.

The decision of the commission is final & cannot be challenged in any courts.

Process of Delimitation in India

- It is ideally conducted after every census as population patterns & rates are known.
- In India allocation of seats to states is frozen to 1971 level so that population explosion for political considerations can be curbed.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- The constituencies are demarcated & modified if the Delimitation Commission sees merit in doing so.

Debates surrounding the process

- India has very poor number of representatives per population numbers of the country.
- Thus, there is a call for increasing the number of representatives proportionally
- further, there is concern that 1971 population cap, does not do justice to present situation of population in states.
- Thus, there is a call for relook on this delimitation moratorium.
- further, the 10year wait for delimitation is also questioned as it deteriorates the population-representation dynamism that must

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

prevail.

Thus, the Govt. must set up a commission to go into the merits of the debate such that a fine balance between representation principles & population control measures can be maintained

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

15. Self Help Groups (SHGs) are vehicles of rural development, which help in the upliftment of marginalized groups. Elucidate. Further, mention the constraints faced by SHGs and how they can be addressed. **(250 words) 15**

Self Help Groups (SHGs) are groupings of people with homogenous economic conditions who come together to accrue benefits of thrift, synergy & contributions.

It was envisaged as a driver for rural development that help marginalised groups because:

① Enhances availability of credit
- from within the group.
- from banks through SHG-Bank Linkage Programme

② Platform to discuss common issues due to mandatory meetings.
eg. Women related abuse etc.

③ Creates a culture of savings amongst marginalised.

④ Creates entrepreneurship opportunity. eg. SEVA

⑤ Creates employment. eg. Kudumbashree in Kerala.

⑥ May take up developmental activities.
eg. Social audit of PRIs, Waste management, etc.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(7) Reduces indebtedness & distress debt trap sales, bonded labour, etc.

(8) Skill development through SHGs.

Constraints faced by SHGs

(1) Inter-State disparities due to differential recognition by states. eg. Kerala v/s Bihar.

(2) Bank loans require collateral that SHGs do not possess.

(3) Default on loans leading to disintegration of SHGs eg. in Tamil Nadu.

(4) Benefits accrued by relatively well-off in the areas, thus benefits don't percolate to needy.

(5) Ascriptive values and social discrimination prevalent.

(6) Discussions of trivial issues overshadow real potential of SHGs for rural development.

(7) Money spent on normative aspects (eg. marriage etc.) rather than developmental aspects.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Addressing Constraints ① Database creation

① Capacity building of SHG members through NGOs or schemes like National Rural Livelihood Mission. DDU-(NRLM)

② Setting agendas for meeting through member-participation.

③ forming SHG - Gram Panchayat linkages for effective problem solving.

④ Enhance capacity through commercial models - eg. higher size, multiple villages, etc.

⑤ Use e-governance portals & apps to interact with & monitor SHGs.

⑥ NABARD should cater to banking problems of SHGs.

⇒ The utmost potential of SHGs should be utilised by integrating them with local governance & banks and efficient monitoring

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

16. With construction of toilets being only one part of the solution for a clean India, it is time that the Swachh Bharat Mission puts more emphasis on the other facets as well. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

Swacch Bharat Mission has been a stellar success for sanitation with a jump from 38% (2014) to 93% (2019). The push for toilet construction has resulted in creation of 9.61 Cr toilets. The Mission now require a major push in other domains as well.

Toilets construction only one part of solution

* Use of toilets should be monitored.
* Maintenance of toilets questioned.
* Need to sustain behavioral change

Clean India, however, entails much more than an open-defecation free India.

Cleanliness should percolate to:

1. Street & surrounding cleanliness.
2. Cleanliness of waterbodies.
3. Cleaner thoughts & removal of social evils.
4. Clean transport that is environment friendly.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(5) Green surroundings

The success of SBM is acting as a Jan Andolan should extend to following facets:

(1) Waste disposal and responsible waste segregation by citizens, industries, etc.

(2) Effective solid waste management by local bodies.

(3) Cleanliness of Rivers through citizen participation in River rejuvenation committees.

(4) Clean surroundings by installment, maintenance and use of dustbins in public places.

(5) Responsible tourism to clean tourist destinations eg. Swachh Iconic Mission.

(6) Look for alternative fuels, push for e-Vehicles, public transport for Clean Environment

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(7) Clean cyber space eg. e-Swacchta botnets.

(8) Push for hygiene in the form of WASH campaign to prevent communicable & vector-borne diseases.

⇒ Thus, a Clean India is an aspirational one which is sustainable and cognisant of the risks to cleanliness. A Jan Andolan for such a Swach Bharat is vital in New India

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

17. Highlight the salient features of Mission Indradhanush. What are the challenges that the mission is facing in its implementation? Suggest measures to address these challenges for progressing towards full immunization coverage. **(250 words) 15**

Mission Indradhanush is a Universal Immunis-
-ation Programme aimed to fulfill universal immunization by 2019.

It involves providing vaccinations against 12 diseases including diptheria, TB, Hepatitis - B, etc

Salient features

* Targetted pregnant mothers, new borns and infant children.
* Ensures vaccination through utilising sewices of Anganwadi & ASHA workers
* Curbs 12 deadly diseases that India faces a high burden of.
* Scope for expanding the vaccinations as was done from 8 to 12.
* Helps fulfill overall target of lowering infant Mortality Rate (IMR)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Challenges in Implementation

- Mindset of beneficiaries against vaccinations due to tabboos & rumours.
- Diseases becoming drug resistant, thus vaccination becomes ineffective.
- AGW & ASHA workers are overworked and underpaid.
- Cost of vaccinations is high, fiscal burden.
- Poor awareness about the scheme.
- Large number of children out of the ambit of its implementation (exclusion).
- Hygiene of vaccination in backward areas is questioned
- Incompletion of courses / dosage, etc.

Measures to address challenges

- Database creation & evidence-based monitoring.
- Involving Gram Panchayats, SHGs for successful awareness & implementation of scheme.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Wages & amenities to AGW & ASHA workers must be periodically upgraded.
- Promotion of institutional delivery (JSY) & corresponding immunisation
- Invest in R&D to reduce prices of such vaccines.

Mission Indradhanush is vital for a Healthy India to fulfill SDG no. 3 Health for All.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

18. Assess the importance of skilling in light of changing economic and demographic structure in India. In this regard, how far has the Skill India Mission succeeded in its mandate. **(250 words) 15**

According to NSSO report around 3% of Indians have undergone formal skilling. This dismal picture explains the fall in employability, wages and the rise in demographic crisis

Importance of skilling & changing economic structure:

1. Shift towards service sector led growth that is highly skill sensitive
2. Rise in urbanisation (31% - 2011 to 50% - 2050) which requires skills for healthy lifestyle
3. Need to make exports more competitive & value-added which will require skilled work force
4. Need to compete with highly skilled countries - USA, South Korea, etc. to get out of Middle Income Trap
5. formalisation of economy demands skilling

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(ii) Changing demographic Structure

- Demographic peak in 2027 with 64% of Indians in working age group.
- This will lead to competition in jobs, wages, etc., thus greater need for skilling.
- Rise in automation, leading to loss of unskilled & replacable jobs, thus Skilling enhances labour's vitality.

Skill India Mission

- Aimed to ~~crea~~ skill youth by 2022.
- Aimed to create industry-academia coordination. – Sector Skill Councils
- Effective recognition & accreditation mechanism.
- 25% of Higher Education Inst. to incorporate skilling.

Success

- Enhanced skills in certain sectors eg. hospitality, services, etc.
- Setting up of Sector Skill Councils, greater industry participation.
- Use of technology was widespread.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Drawbacks

- Accreditation process was taxing and not standardised.
- Regular monitoring of skill upgradation was lacking.
- Wages of "skilled" labour not commensurate with expectations.
- few sectors were successful - skewed.

Way forward

- PPP model in Skilling.
- Sharda Prasad Committee recommendation for Sector Skill Councils
- Promote Skill Vouchers to make it a financial tool.

→ The success of harnessing the demographic dividend is dependent on the success of Skill India Mission such that Vocationalisation becomes an aspirational choice.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

19. What according to you are the reasons that motivated India to create a dedicated Indo-Pacific division in the MEA recently? Also, highlight the challenges for India in the Indo-Pacific region. **(250 words) 15**

The recent step by the MEA to carve out a dedicated Indo-Pacific division throws light on the traction gained by this region in geo-political discourse.

Reasons for Creation

1. Most countries were releasing dedicated policy towards this region.
   eg. Australia, Japan, ASEAN countries.
2. for better coordination amongst various missions dedicated to countries in this region.
3. To showcase the importance of Indian ocean as a part of the greater ~~Ind.~~ Asia-Pacific region.
4. To have a concerted strategy to tackle challenges of the region
   - piracy, maritime security, etc
5. To explore the various resources of

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

the Indo-Pacific eg. poly metallic Nodules.

6. To showcase itself as a Net-security provider in this region.

7. To effective cooperate with other countries → security: MALABAR, RIMPAC
→ economic: Asia-Africa Growth Corridor.

8. Push for importance of ports & island nations.

Challenges for India in Indo-Pacific

1. Rise in presence of China due to BRI, String of pearls, etc.

2. Challenges of trafficking, piracy, naval terrorism, etc.

3. Concerns of Climate change for Own Islands (L'dweep, A&N) and of other small nations.

4. Increase in presence of global powers in the region. USA - Diego Garcia
France - Reunion Island.

5. Threats to Strategic choke points by countries may harm our trade &

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

energy security (Bab-Al Mandeb, Hormuz, Malacca.)

6. Competition with China for development of Africa.

7. Enhance defence indeginisation to gain credibility as a net security provider.

8. Exploration of resources requires technical competence.

9. Rise in anti-India feelings eg. Agalega.

→ India in the Shangri la dialogue showed its commitment for a free, open & inclusive Indo-Pacific which is seen by its policies like SAGAR, Proj. Mausam & IO Naval Symposium.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

20. For SCO to become a successful regional grouping, it has to overcome bilateral differences between its members and their respective geopolitical calculations. Comment. Also, discuss the role that SCO can play in enhancing India's interest in the Eurasian region. **(250 words) 15**

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is viewed as an Eurasian Grouping of 8 member countries for economic and military purposes.

It is a unique grouping including heavy weights like Russia & China and Central Asian Republics (CARs) which has gained prominence with addition of India and Pakistan.

Overcoming bilateral Differences

* The platform may become sabotaged by the India-Pakistan concerns.
* Bilateral problems between India & China should also be mitigated
* The differences between Russia & China should also be ironed out.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Overcoming Geopolitical calculations

* The definition of "terrorism" by each country should be aligned for success of RATS.
* Pakistan would want to prevent Indian interactions with CARs
* India's concerns about China's BRI as a geopolitical strategy.
* Russia considers CAR as its backyard & is wary of growing Chinese presence.
* CAR would want to maintain autonomy & not get boiled down by geopolitical games of heavy-weights.

Role that SCO can play to enhance India's Interest in Eurasian region

* Acts as platform for interaction with heads of CAR.
* Transport treaties like INSTC, Ashgabat agreement can be furthered to SCO.
* Tackles common concern of terrorism

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

affecting India & the Eurasian region.

* Push to resource agreements with Uzbeg. (uranium), Tashkent (hydro) and TAPI pipeline.
* Reduces Pakistan's role in India's interactions with Islamic Eurasia.
* Tackle problem of drugs emanating from Golden Crescent.

→ Thus, India's membership to SCO 2018 is a diplomatic success which will reap geo-political & economic benefits provided SCO is not marred by bilateral issues of member countries, and fulfill PM's cooperation for

H - Health
E - Economy
A - Alternate Energy
L - Literature & Culture
T - Tourism
H - Humanitarian.